MTGY0001-101 SERIAL NO.: 10/752,791

PATER FILED: January 7,2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 8-30 without prejudice.

Please add claims 31-42.

Please amend claims 1 and 6 as follows:

BEST AVAILABLE COPY This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

- 1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein commising an amino acid sequence comprising at least 70% sequence identity to SEO ID NO: 2, wherein the protein has pro-oxidant activity. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of: (a) an isolated nucleic acid molecule that encodes the amino-acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 2; (b) an isolated nucleic acid molecule that encodes an exon 3 deleted MnSOD; (c) an isolated nucleic acid molecule which comprises SEQ ID No.1;-(d) an isolated nucleic acid molecule complementary to SEQ ID No. 1; (e) an isolated nucleic acid-molecule that encodes an exon 3-deleted MnSOD and comprises the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID-NO:3; and (f) an isolated nucleic acid-molecule that encedes an exon 3-deleted MnSOD comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4-
- 2. (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of the sequence of comprising at least 97% identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 3. (original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of any of claims 1 or 2, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is operably linked to one or more expression control elements.
 - 4. (original) A vector comprising an isolated nucleic acid molecule of any of claims 1 or 2.
 - 5. (original) A host cell comprising a vector of claim 4.
- 6. (currently amended) [[A]] The host cell of claim 5, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of a prokaryotic host cell and a eukaryotic host cell.
- 7. (original) A method of producing a polypeptide, comprising the step of culturing a host cell transformed or transfected with a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or 2 under conditions in which the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

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8-30. (canceled)

- 31. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said encoded papertide comprises SEQ ID NO: 4.
- 32. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said encoded propertide comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.
- 33. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said isolated whic acid molecule comprises a nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 70% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.
- 34. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said isolated much acid molecule comprises a nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 97% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.
- 35. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said isolated molecule comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.
- 36. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 37. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said pro-oxidant activity is nonspecific mtDNA oxidative damage.
- 38. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule complementary to the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
- 39. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 34, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is complementary to SEQ ID NO: 1.
 - 40. (new) The vector of claim 4, wherein said vector is a plasmid or a viral vector.
- 41. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.
- 42. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.